Guide to the High Tech Gays Records MSS.2018.10.08

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Fall 2018
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URL: http://library.sjsu.edu/sjsu-special-collections/sjsu-special-collections-and-archives
Language of Material: English
Contributing Institution: SJSU Special Collections & Archives
Title: High Tech Gays Records
creator: High Tech Gays
Identifier/Call Number: MSS-2018-10-08
Physical Description: 1 Box (1.2 linear feet)
Date (inclusive): 1983-2001
Date (bulk): 1983-1993
Content Description
The High Tech Gays Records collection consists primarily of monthly newsletters but also includes correspondence, flyers, photographs and other materials that document the activities of High Tech Gays, an organization for gay high technology workers in Silicon Valley in California.
The newsletters relate information about the group's social events, political activities and monthly meetings that included a potluck supper and featured a guest speaker. Many of the speakers were related to local politics, such as the the San Jose Mayoral candidates (Frank Fiscalini, Susan Hammer, Shirley Lewis) or the gay rights movement such as National Gay and Lesbian Task Force (NFLTF) President Jeff Levi.
The correspondence in particular provide insight into the political activites the organization was involved with, especially their efforts to educate employers and prevent discrimination against gay people.
Photographs are mainly snapshots from monthly meetings, camping trips and parades.
Arrangement
The collection is arranged alphabetically by folder title.
Organizational History
High Tech Gays was a social and political organization for gay high tech workers in California's Silicon Valley from 1983 to 1997. It organized social events and held monthly meetings in San Jose, California. Its events included parties, camping trips, and hosted guest lectures.
High Tech Gays was politically active in support of the gay rights movement in the 1980s and 1990s. The group participated in yearly Pride events in San Francisco and San Jose, as well as the national March on Washington in 1987 and 1993. High Tech Gays was especially involved in working to prevent employer discrimination against gay people. It petitioned high tech companies to change their non-discrimination policies to include gay people as a protected class. It supported members' rights to be treated equally when applying for security clearances and sued the Defense Investigative Security Office in 1984. The 1987 ruling supported the right of gays not to be discriminated against when applying for security clearances, but was overturned by the 9th Circuit Court of Appeals in 1990.
Conditions Governing Access
Collection is open for research.
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Preferred Citation
High Tech Gays Records, MSS-2018-10-08, San Jose State University Library, Special Collections & Archives
Processing Information
Collection processed by Monica Keane 10/19/2018.
Related Materials
Subjects and Indexing Terms
Gay rights -- California -- San Jose
Civil rights -- California -- San Jose
Gays -- Political activity -- California -- Santa Clara County
Gays -- Societies, etc.
High technology -- Employees -- Societies, etc.
High Tech Gays
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Activities and Events
Administrative Documents
Associated Organizations
Brochures and Stationary
Buttons
Cassette 1986
Correspondence 1983-1987
Correspondence 1988-1989
Correspondence 1990-1992
News Clippings
Newsletters 1983-1985
Newsletters 1986-1988
Newsletters 1989-1991
Newsletters 1992-1994
Newsletters 1995-1997
Newsletters Wax Boards
Photographs
Press Releases and Flyers